

# Teacher Answer Page

## Activity 1

Question 1)

150 million kilometers / (3 days x 24 hours) = 2.1 million kilometers per hour.

Question 2)

The electrical event began at 2:45 AM and lasted 97 seconds.

Question 3)

The Quebec blackout lasted nine hours.

Question 4)

Students are being asked to consider what kinds of electrical systems can be affected by a blackout. The recent 2003 blackout which struck the East Coast of the US is a good resource for examples of situations that can arise during a blackout. Severe problems would involve hospital surgery wards losing power, people trapped in elevators in high-rise buildings among other situations.

## Activity 2

Problem 1)

Eruption on Tuesday at 4:50 PM

Detection near Earth on Thursday at 3:36 AM

First day passes to Wednesday at 4:50 PM +24h

Now to get from Wednesday afternoon at 4:50 PM to Thursday morning at 3:36 AM Need to add an additional 5:10 + 3:36 = 8:46. Now add this to 24h to get the answer. **Answer: 32 hours and 46 minutes.**

Problem 2) 5:35 AM - 3:36 AM = **1 hour and 59 minutes**

Problem 3) 2:45 PM - 3:36 AM = 14:45 - 3:36 = **11 hours and 9 minutes**

Extra Credit) 150,000,000 / (32 h 46 minutes) = **4.58 million km/hour**

## Activity 3

Problem 1) 828.3 - 17.6 = **810.7 gigawatts**

Problem 2) 48 x 17.6 = **844.8 gigawatts** compared to one storm with 828.3 gigawatts

Problem 3) **3,665.2 gigawatts** or 1.6652 trillion watts

Problem 4) 828.3/96.5 = **46.6 times greater**

## Activity 4

The diameter of the partial Earth disk is about 60 millimeters. The scale of the photograph is therefore 13,000/60 = 217 kilometers per millimeter.

Problem 1) The diameter of the inside of the oval is about 20 millimeters or  $20 \times 217 = 4340$  kilometers. The outside diameter of the oval is about 27 millimeters or  $27 \times 217 = 5860$  kilometers.

Problem 2) The area of the oval is found by taking the difference of the larger and smaller circles. The area of the two circles with diameters of 5860 and 4340 kilometers is found by using the formula for the area of a circle,  $A = \pi R^2$ , with  $\pi = 3.14$ , and  $R = 5860/2 = 2930$  kilometers for the larger circle and  $R = 4340/2 = 2170$  kilometers for the smaller circle. The larger circle area is  $A = 3.14 (2930)^2 = 2.69 \times 10^7$  square kilometers.

The smaller circle area is  $A = 3.14 (2170)^2 = 1.48 \times 10^7$  square kilometers. Subtracting the larger from the smaller gives the oval area of  $1.21 \times 10^7$  square kilometers, or 12.1 million square kilometers in the units requested.

### **Activity 5**

- A)  $[-20, +8]$   
 B)  $-20$   
 C)  $+8$   
 D) Sorted  $-20 -15 -15 -15 -8 -2 +2 +4 +5 +5 +8$   
 Median =  $-2$  (In a list of 11 elements, the value in the 6th place 1/2 way between extremes)  
 Mode =  $-15$  (most often measured)  
 E)  $(-20 -15 -15 -15 -8 -2 +2 +4 +5 +5 +8)/11 = -47/11 = -4.3$

### **Activity 6**

- Problem 1) 931.0 kilometers per second  
 Problem 2) 379.0 kilometers per second  
 Problem 3)  $8498/14 = 607$  kilometers/second  
 Problem 4)  $(931) \times (3600) \times 0.62 = 2.08$  million miles/hour  
 Problem 5) Fastest:  $150,000,000/931.0 = 161,000$  seconds or 44.75 hours  
 Slowest =  $150,000,000/379.0 = 396,000$  seconds or 110 hours

### **Activity 7**

- Problem 1) Maximum = 401, minimum = 214  
 Ordered = 214, 229, 232, 240, 241, 243, 268, 276, 290, 325, 335, 342, 401  
 Median = 268  
 Mean =  $(214 + 229 + 232 + 240 + 241 + 243 + 268 + 276 + 290 + 325 + 335 + 342 + 401)/13 = 3436/13 = 264.3$

- Problem 2) Maximum = 16, Minimum = 5  
 Ordered = 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 9, 13, 13, 14, 14, 15  
 Median = 9  
 Mean =  $(5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9 + 9 + 13 + 13 + 14 + 14 + 15)/11 = 113/11 = 10.3$

Problem 3) Maximum = 219.4 Minimum = 39.8  
 Ordered = 39.8, 76.2, 86.2, 107.9, 112.4, 122.2, 153.9, 171.2, 219.4  
 Median = 112.4  
 Mean =  $(39.8 + 76.2 + 86.2 + 107.9 + 112.4 + 122.2 + 153.9 + 171.2 + 219.4)/9 = 1089.2/9 = 121.0$

**Activity 8**

Problem 1)  
 Maxima Table:

Year	Difference
2000	
1990	10
1980	10
1969	11
1957	12
1947	10
1937	10
1928	9
1917	11
1905	12
1893	12
1883	10
1870	13

Problem 2)  
 Minima Table:

Year	Difference
1996	
1986	10
1976	10
1964	12
1954	10
1944	10
1933	11
1923	10
1913	10
1901	12
1889	12
1879	10
1867	12

Problem 3)  
 Average time =  $(10 + 10 + 11 + 12 + 10 + 10 + 9 + 11 + 12 + 12 + 10 + 13)/12 = 130/12 = 10.8$  years between sunspot maxima.

Problem 4)  
 Average time =  $(10 + 10 + 12 + 10 + 10 + 11 + 10 + 10 + 12 + 12 + 10 + 12)/12 = 129/12 = 10.8$  years between sunspot maxima.

Problem 5)  
 Average length =  $(10.8 + 10.8) / 2 = 10.8$  years.

**Activity 9**

Problem 1) X1.2 on February 5 with a brightness of  $(1000) \times 1.2 = 1,200$ .  
 Problem 2) C2.4 on February 6 with a brightness of  $(1.0) \times 2.4 = 2.4$   
 Problem 3)  $1200/2.4 = 500$  times brighter  
 Problem 4) There are a total of 22 flares in the table. There are 13 flares brighter than M1.0 but not equal to M1.0. The percentage is then  $(13/22) \times 100\% = 59\%$

**Activity 10**

Problem 1)  
 a)  $5.99 \times 10^{15}$  kilometers



Encourage students to use scientific notation where appropriate, and to be careful of the number of significant figures after the decimal point when using a calculator.

Problem 1)  $D = 5.5 + 25.7 (15.7) + 1/2 (32) (15.7)^2 = 5.5 + 403.5 + 3943.8 = \mathbf{4352.8}$

Problem 2)  $E = 15 (299792.5)^2 = \mathbf{1.35 \times 10^{12}}$

Problem 3)  $L = 4 (3.141) (6.9 \times 10^{10})^2 (0.000058)(5770)^4 = \mathbf{3.85 \times 10^{33}}$

Problem 4)  $M = (9.54 \times 10^{15}) (3987.6) (30.5)^3 = \mathbf{1.08 \times 10^{24}}$

### **Activity 15**

Problem 1)

There are a total of 108 solar flares spotted. If 34 solar flares happen at the same time as CMEs directed towards Earth are recorded, then there are  $(108-34) = 74$  solar flares that happen when CMEs are not detected. The percentage =  $74 \times 100\%/108 = 68\%$ . So, 68% of all the major solar flares do not produce CMEs. In the very few words that a reporter often uses to describe the scientific concepts, the reporter says that solar flares produce CMEs. This statement is only true about 32% of the time. This means that, actually, most flares do NOT produce CMEs.

Problem 2)

a) Of the 55 CMEs directed towards Earth, 29 happen at the same time as the severe magnetic disturbances seen by the ACE satellite, so the percentage is  $29/55 = 53\%$ .

b) Of the 56 magnetic storms detected by the ACE satellite, 31 produce bright aurora seen by the IMAGE satellite so,  $31/56 = 55\%$  of the magnetic disturbances produce strong aurora.

Problem 3)

Of the 55 CME's that are detected heading towards Earth, 29 of these cause magnetic disturbances. But only 55% of the severe magnetic disturbances seen by the ACE satellite actually lead to strong aurora. This means that out of the CME's detected, only  $(29/55) \times (55/100) = 0.29$  or 29% caused strong aurora. This means that most CMEs do not produce disturbances near the Earth, and so the detection of CMEs headed towards Earth is not enough to help us reliably predict whether a strong aurora will be produced.